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stricted immigration, indeed, is that without it assimilation is practically impossible. As an honest and illuminating endeavor to lay bare the truth in this question so haunted with myth and unreasoned prejudice, this work rewards the reader's close attention.

**Japanese Expansion and American Policies.** By *James Francis Abbott*. The Macmillan Company, New York. 268 p., with index. 1916. \$1.50.

Fifteen years of experience with the Japanese and sympathetic study of their problems, part of the time as instructor in the Imperial Japanese Naval Academy, give Dr. Abbott considerable authority for his shrewd and sensible observations. He finds the Japanese torn between the two needs of converting their country from an agricultural into an industrial nation, and of finding an outlet for a population already over-large and increasing at the rate of three quarters of a million a year. Opposition of other nations to expansion entails the maintenance of huge armaments for protection or enforcement of rights, which must blight inevitably Japan's industrial growth and stunt her ability as a world power to contribute valued gifts to the society of nations. The solution, obviously, lies with the other nations, and Dr. Abbott would have this country lead in yielding to Japan's necessities of colonization. He points wisely to the possibilities in such a move, in the way of which stands only a materialistic distrust of Japan of which the basis is little more than panic fear combined with cynical greed, both

unworthy of the part America is striving to play today. This is perhaps admirable effort, but it is at least interesting to remark that these are almost the very words employed twenty years ago by equally honest and earnest friends of Germany in regard to Germany's dilemma.

**The Literary History of Spanish America.** By *Alfred Coester*. The Macmillan Company, New York. 495 p., including bibliography and index. 1916. \$2.50.

It is obviously not enough to pick up the bi-monthly Spanish edition of *Inter-America* (printed in English) and read over the wisdom, fiction and fun of Latin America of today to place oneself in relations of friendly understanding with the literary worlds of our sister-republics. We find similarities and differences, in comparing this literature with our own, which are without much meaning to us, if the whole history of the building up of this literature of today is lacking. This knowledge Mr. Coester has endeavored to place within our reach, comprehensively and yet succinctly. From the early documents of the explorers and the friars, recording with no little flight of fancy and grace of imagery the impressions gained of the New World, to the *modernista* followers of Verlaine, the author gives us a rapid yet clear sketch of the growth of Spanish American literature in each of the countries of South and Central America. This is valuable material for the development of closer contact in Pan American relations. "Love me, love my dog" is as truly rendered, "Love me, love my books."

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